



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/037,447 | 12/31/2001 | John J. Egan | 361331-510A | 4963 |

30623 7590 01/26/2005

MINTZ, LEVIN, COHN, FERRIS, GLOVSKY
AND POPEO, P.C.
ONE FINANCIAL CENTER
BOSTON, MA 02111

EXAMINER

DELCROIX MUIRHEI, CYBILLE

| | |
|----------|--------------|
| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|

1614

DATE MAILED: 01/26/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 10/037,447 | Applicant(s) EGAN ET AL. | |
| | Examiner Cybille Delacroix-Muirheid | Art Unit 1614 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 September 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 and 11-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 13 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7, 11 and 12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>06/22/2004</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Detailed Action

The following is responsive to Applicant's amendment received Sep. 30, 2004.

Claims 8-10 are cancelled. New claims 11-13 are added. Claims 1-7, 11-13 are currently pending.

The previous claim objection and rejection under 35 USC 112 set forth on pages 2-3 of the office action mailed June 30, 2004 are withdrawn in view of Applicant's amendment and the remarks contained therein.

The previous claim rejection under 35 USC 103(a) over Dominianni (abstract), set forth on pages 3-5 of the office action mailed June 30, 2004 is withdrawn in view of Applicant's amendment and the remarks contained therein.

However, the following new ground(s) of rejection is respectfully submitted.

New Ground(s) of Rejection

Claim Rejection(s)—35 USC 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

1. Claims 1-7, 11-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The limitations "wherein the compound of formula II differs from a salt of 3-[2-(3,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-2-oxoethyl]-oxazolium by one or more of the lack or replacement of one of the methoxy substitutions, or the presence of one or more additional substitutions; and wherein the compound of formula II differs from a salt of 5-

Art Unit: 1614

phenyl-3-phenylmethyl-oxazolium by one or more of the lack or replacement of the 5-phenyl substitution, or the presence of one or more additional substitutions" in claim 1 renders the claims indefinite.

Such limitations are not defined by the claim, and the specification does not provide a description for determining which substitutions are within the scope of the invention and which "replacements" are allowed for the methoxy and 5-phenyl substituents. Thus, one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention.

"The primary purpose of this requirement of definiteness of claim language is to ensure that the scope of the claims is clear so the public is informed of the boundaries of what constitutes infringement of the patent. A secondary purpose is to provide a clear measure of what applicants regard as the invention so that it can be determined whether the claimed invention meets all of the criteria for patentability and whether the specification meets the criteria of 35 USC 112, first paragraph with respect to the claimed invention." Please see MPEP 2173.

Because the above-described limitations would invite subjective interpretations of whether or not a particular substitution or replacement was included by or excluded from the present claims, the Examiner respectfully submits that the public would not be informed of the boundaries of what constitutes infringement of the present claims and thus the claims do not meet the requirements of 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 13 is free from the prior art because the prior art does not disclose or fairly suggest the claimed compound.

Conclusion

Claims 1-7, 11-12 are rejected.

Claim 13 is allowable.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Cybill Delacroix-Muirheid** whose telephone number is **571-272-0572**. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs. from 8:30 to 6:00 as well as every other Friday from 9:30-6:00.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Christopher Low**, can be reached on **571-272-0951**. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is **571-273-8300**.

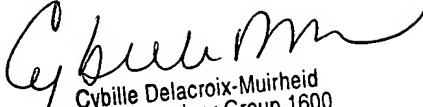
Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Application/Control Number: 10/037,447

Page 5

Art Unit: 1614

CDM 
Jan. 25, 2005


Cybille Delacroix-Muirheid
Patent Examiner Group 1600